

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 162536
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H:NCLEDSKY
EUR:RDVINE
S/S-O: RCASTRODALE

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TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 162536

EXDIS, FOR AMB, MILITARY ADDEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, TU, CY

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSAL TO LIFT
TURKISH EMBARGO

REF: STATE 156833, 161686, 161694

1. OUR BEST CURRENT ASSESSMENT OF CONGRESSIONAL SITUATION
IS THAT WE ARE EVEN OR ONLY SLIGHTLY AHEAD IN BOTH THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE. IN THE HOUSE, OUR FIRM
SUPPORT IS AROUND 150; THOSE OPPOSED TO LIFTING THE EMBARGO
CAN BE SURE OF ABOUT 130. ABOUT 150 CONGRESSMEN ARE LEAN-
ING EITHER SLIGHTLY FOR OR SLIGHTLY AGAINST BUT IN THE FINAL
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ANALYSIS COULD VOTE EITHER WAY. THE SENATE SITUATION IS
COMPARABLE. SOME 45 SENATORS ARE EITHER IN FAVOR OR LEANING
IN FAVOR; 40 ARE EITHER AGAINST OR LEANING AGAINST AND THE
REMAINING 15 ARE UNKNOWN OR UNDECIDED.

2. PRESIDENT AND SECRETARIES OF STATE AND DEFENSE WILL
CONTINUE STRONG EFFORTS OVER NEXT THREE WEEKS IN EFFORT
TO CONVINCE CONGRESS THAT REPEAL OF TURKISH EMBARGO IS IN

U.S. NATIONAL INTEREST AND THAT EARLY ACTION IS ESSENTIAL. SECRETARIES BROWN AND VANCE AND JCS CHAIRMAN DESIGNATE JONES WILL TESTIFY BEFORE SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE JUNE 28. CONSIDERATION IS BEING GIVEN TO FURTHER PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY PRESIDENT. PRESIDENT WILL MEET JUNE 27 WITH

50 OR SO CONGRESSMEN WHOSE POSITION IS EITHER UNDECIDED OR LEANING ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.

3. YOU MAY SHARE FOREGOING ASSESSMENT WITH PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT AND/OR FOREIGN MINISTER OKCUN. YOU SHOULD ALSO STRESS, DRAWING IN PART ON YOUR OWN EXPERIENCE IN WASHINGTON TWO WEEKS AGO, THAT CONGRESSIONAL SITUATION IS VERY FLUID AND THAT MUCH WORK REMAINS TO BE DONE BEFORE ANTICIPATED VOTES IN BOTH SENATE AND HOUSE LATER IN JULY. YOU SHOULD ALSO INDICATE THAT SEVERAL OF OUR STRONGEST SUPPORTERS ON HILL CONTINUE TO TELL US THAT FAVORABLE ACTION TO LIFT EMBARGO WOULD BE MORE LIKELY IF TURKS WOULD TAKE ADDITIONAL FORTHCOMING, CREDIBLE ACTIONS WITH REGARD TO CYPRUS AND/OR RELATIONS WITH GREECE AND U.S. OVER NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS. AMONG POSSIBILITIES WHICH ARE MENTIONED ARE THE FOLLOWING, WHICH YOU SHOULD REVIEW WITH ECEVIT AND/OR OKCUN.

4. CYPRUS:

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(A) VAROSHA. STATE 161686 TRANSMITS TEXT OF DRAFT PAPER WHICH IF ACCEPTABLE TO GOT AND TURKISH CYPRIOTS WOULD IN OUR JUDGMENT BE VIEWED FAVORABLY IN CONGRESS AS FURTHER CONCRETE UNDERTAKING BY TURKISH SIDE TO ACCEPT INTERIM U.N. ADMINISTRATIVE REGIME FOR VAROSHA RESETTLEMENT WHILE PROVIDING SOME GUARANTEES FOR RETURNING RESIDENTS. EARLY TURKISH AGREEMENT TO THIS PAPER OR VARIATION OF IT WOULD ALLOW ADMINISTRATION TO MAKE EVEN MORE CONVINCING CASE ABOUT TURKISH FLEXIBILITY ON SENSITIVE AND IMPORTANT VAROSHA ISSUE.

(B) TROOP WITHDRAWALS. YOU SHOULD REMIND THE PRIME MINISTER THAT DURING HIS CONVERSATION WITH THE PRESIDENT MAY 31, THE VALUE OF A FURTHER SUBSTANTIAL TROOP REDUCTION WAS TOUCHED ON. YOU SHOULD EXPRESS HOPE THAT ECEVIT HAS HAD OPPORTUNITY CONSIDER THIS MATTER FURTHER AND REITERATE OUR BELIEF THAT WITHDRAWAL ON ORDER OF 5,000 OR SO WOULD BE PARTICULARLY USEFUL IF ANNOUNCED IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

(C) YOU SHOULD ALSO INDICATE THAT OVER NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS WE WILL BE PUBLICLY REAFFIRMING OUR COMMITMENT TO HELPING

ACHIEVE CYPRUS SETTLEMENT; WE ARE CURRENTLY CONSIDERING HOW SUCH A COMMITMENT CAN BE BEST REALIZED OVER NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS AND WE MAY HAVE SOME FURTHER SPECIFIC IDEAS TO PUT FORWARD TO PARTIES BEFORE LONG.

5. GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS:

THERE IS SOME RECEPTIVITY IN CONGRESS TO THE ARGUMENT THAT REPEALING THE EMBARGO COULD INCREASE THE TURKISH THREAT TO GREEK SECURITY. TO OFFSET THIS ARGUMENT WE THINK THERE ARE SEVERAL POSSIBILITIES THAT MIGHT BE REALIZABLE IN SHORT RUN.

(A) NATO. STATE 161694 REFERS TO AGREEMENT REACHED
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BETWEEN GENERAL HAIG AND GENERAL DAVOS, WHICH, AS WE UNDERSTAND IT, WOULD EFFECTIVELY RESULT IN GREEK RE-INTEGRATION INTO NATO MILITARY STRUCTURE. GOT HAS POSSIBILITY OF PREVENTING IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS AGREEMENT, BUT WE WOULD VERY MUCH HOPE THAT TURKS WOULD SEE THAT GREEK RETURN TO NATO WOULD BE USEFUL STEP TOWARD RESTORING NATO SOUTHEASTERN FLANK.

(B) GREECE-TURKEY TALKS. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD ALSO BE OF USE IF JULY 4-5 MEETING OF TURKISH AND GREEK SECRETARIES GENERAL COULD SHOW SOME MOVEMENT IN HANDLING GREEK-TURKISH PROBLEMS. ONE THOUGHT WHICH OCCURS TO US IS WHETHER GOT COULD MAKE STATEMENT WHICH WOULD REITERATE THAT TURKEY HARBORS NO AGGRESSIVE DESIGNS ON GREECE, WISHES ONLY TO LIVE PEACEFULLY AND AMICABLY WITH ITS NEIGHBORS, AND HAS NO INTENTION OF ENGAGING IN ANY FORM OF THREATS. YOU SHOULD, OF COURSE, STRESS THAT WE HAVE NO INTEREST OR DESIRE TO BECOME MORE INVOLVED IN SUBSTANCE OF AEGEAN DISPUTES, BUT WE ARE PREPARED, AS WE HAVE BEEN IN THE PAST, TO LISTEN TO BOTH SIDES AND TO MAKE ANY PROCEDURAL SUGGESTIONS THAT THE PARTIES MIGHT FIND HELPFUL. IN THIS CONNECTION, AMBASSADOR ESENBEL PRESENTED COUNSELOR NIMETZ JUNE 23 WITH AIDE MEMOIRE COMPLAINING OF FURTHER GREEK TRANSFERS OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO "DEMILITARIZED" AEGEAN ISLANDS (SEPTTEL). WE TAKE SUCH A TURKISH REQUEST SERIOUSLY BUT WE BELIEVE BEST COURSE FOR BOTH TURKEY AND GREECE WOULD BE BILATERAL EFFORT TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES WHICH EXIST BETWEEN THEM AND FIND OTHER MEANS TO RESTORE CONFIDENCE.

6. ANTAKYA THREE. WE ARE PLEASED THAT GOT IS PREPARED
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NEGOTIATE BILATERAL AGREEMENT RELATED TO PRISONERS. YOU MIGHT MENTION TO PRIME MINISTER THAT SEVERAL MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WHO HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT U.S. PRISONERS IN TURKEY HAVE ALREADY SPOKEN FAVORABLY OF TURKISH WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE WHEN IT WAS MADE KNOWN TO THEM BY TURKISH AMBASSADOR. WE WOULD HOPE THAT NEGOTIATIONS CAN TAKE PLACE AT EARLY DATE IN EFFORT TO WORK OUT MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT. WE WILL BE

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FOLLOWING UP ON THIS SEPARATELY.

7. WE WOULD, OF COURSE, ALSO BE INTERESTED IN ECEVIT REFLECTIONS ON HIS RECENT VISIT TO MOSCOW. VANCE

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY EUR/RPM:PBSWIERS

APPROVED BY EUR:MPARRIS

EUR/SE:RCEWING

S/S-O:TMARTIN

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R 271825Z JUN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USMISSION USNATO 0000

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 162536

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 162536 ACTION ANKARA INFO NICOSIA ATHENS
USUN NEW YORK USNMR SHAPE JUNE 26.

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 162536

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To: ANKARA
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